

A RESOLUTION to urge Tennessee's United States Senators and Congressmen and the Secretary of Defense to maintain the Defense Distribution Depot in Memphis, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, hereinafter referred to as DDMT, was opened in 1941 and is located in America's number one distribution center; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Defense by its Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) has recently recommended that the DDMT be closed based on declining storage requirements, capacity estimates and the need to reduce distribution infrastructure cost within the agency; and

WHEREAS, the closure of DDMT would deprive the city of Memphis and the state of Tennessee of a resource that provides economic opportunities for many; and

WHEREAS, during Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield, DDMT reached an outstanding employment peak of 2,873 permanent and 900 temporary employees for a total of 3,773 employees; and

WHEREAS, the DDMT is the largest logistics facility in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact as a result of the closure of DDMT would eliminate 1,300 jobs over the 1996-2001 implementation period and indirect jobs of approximately 2,049 workers will be eliminated as well; and

WHEREAS, the average employee age of DDMT is 44.7, an age range that is considered unemployable, where the closing of DDMT would hinder the chances of those persons to obtain future employment; and

WHEREAS, the total labor and non-labor financial impact of DDMT on the city is \$142 million annually. This impact increases to \$500 million annually when using an economic multiplier; and

WHEREAS, a wide array of national and local transportation companies contract with DDMT making it the most utilized depot in the United States. There are over 200 truck lines, 44 air carriers, 9 airlines, 2 military air terminals, 6 commercial barge lines, 6 class one railroads and the largest cargo airline in the country, Federal Express. The Memphis International Airport is the world's number one cargo airport in tonnage of materials delivered; and

WHEREAS, the DDMT is in close proximity to the important Tennessee Air National Guard 164th Airlift Group which is located within two miles of the defense facility; and

WHEREAS, the depot and the 164th Airlift Group played a tremendous role in the shipping of materials to soldiers in humanitarian missions, including the missions in Somalia, Haiti, Rwanda, Bosnia and Cuba; and

WHEREAS, DDMT has consistently exceeded performance goals set by the Defense Logistics Agency. One goal of the DLA is for the DDMT to turnaround high priority shipments in one day; DDMT's average turnaround time is an outstanding 0.4 days, the highest turnaround average of any other depot; and

WHEREAS, the depot's plant is in excellent condition and requires less maintenance outlay in dollars than any DLA facility; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the original plant, the facility has two new 200,000 square foot warehouses; one, now complete, stores hazardous materials and has a re-coup facility; the other is scheduled for completion in the summer of 1995, costing taxpayers \$8.7 million, all of which will be forfeited upon the closing of DDMT.

WHEREAS, the closing of the DDMT will have a devastating fiscal impact on the city of Memphis as well as the state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That

we strongly urge Tennessee's United States Senators and Congressmen and the Secretary of Defense to maintain the Defense Distribution Depot in Memphis, Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to President Bill Clinton, Vice-President Al Gore, each Tennessee United States Senator and Congressman, the Clerks of the United States Senate and House of Representatives and the Secretary of Defense.